

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



CENTER FOR DRUG AND HEALTH PLAN CHOICE

DATE: November 10, 2009

TO: All Medicare Managed Care and Prescription Drug Plan Organizations

FROM: Anthony Culotta, Director
Medicare Enrollment and Appeals Group

Danielle Moon, Acting Director
Medicare Drug & Health Plan Contract Administration Group

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Medicare Drug Benefit and C & D Data Group

RE: Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for Beneficiaries Affected by Contracts Non-Renewing or Undergoing a Service Area Reduction (SAR) for 2010

The purpose of this communication is to remind you that there is a special enrollment period (SEP) for beneficiaries who are affected by a contract that is either non-renewing or undergoing a Service Area Reduction (SAR) effective January 1, 2010. This SEP began on October 1, and applies to beneficiaries enrolled in all Medicare Managed Care and Prescription Drug Plan Organizations. All beneficiaries who will need to select a new plan for 2010 as a result of a non-renewal or SAR should have received a personalized letter from their plan no later than November 2. The SEP will continue through January 31, 2010. During this time, individuals may choose to prospectively enroll in a new plan with the following possible effective dates:

Month Request is Received	Effective Date Options
October 2009	November 1 December 1 January 1
November 2009	December 1 January 1
December 2009	January 1
January 2010	February 1

CMS intends to send a reminder letter to beneficiaries in plans that are subject to non-renewal or SAR informing them of the need to make a choice of replacement coverage for 2010.

There will also be contract changes for 2010 due to contract consolidations, crosswalks, and novations. Most beneficiaries affected by these changes will receive notification of these changes through the 2010 Annual Notice of Change Mailing. In limited circumstances approved by CMS, some beneficiaries affected by these changes may also receive an additional notice of a special enrollment period.

If you have questions about Medicare Managed Care Organizations, please contact Ann Moses at ann.moses@cms.hhs.gov. If you have questions about and Prescription Drug Plans, please contact Rochel Schnur at rochel.schnur@cms.hhs.gov.

Thank you.